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House of Representatives

CONGRESSMAN DONALD NORCROSS OF NEW JERSEY

May 15, 2018

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor forty-three high school seniors in Camden County for their commendable decision to enlist in the United States Armed Forces. Of these forty-three, five have joined the Army: Francisco Rosado, Christian Aviles, Mark Conception, Nicholas Christinzio, and Zuluyka Serate. Two have joined the Air Force: Alexis Tapia and Dominique Perez. Nineteen have joined the Marine Corps: Giovanni Pasquarelli, Jesse Harryman, William Jamieson, Ethan Moncrief, William Sayers, Jack Percak, Brian Romerogran, Anthony Vitkunas, Trushaun Kelly, Delious Bullock, Luke Hurey, Jeserica Santos, Marvin Sewell, Remy Martinez, Andre Castro, Adrian Vargas, Cristian Reyes-Nunez, Kenneth Cortez, and Jeffery Nolasco. Eight have joined the Navy: Joshua Fitzgerald, Samuel Keppel, Niemai Smith, Ryan Hutchinson, Preston Solla, Nicholas Yourkonis, Noah Berrios, and Nasir Crews. And nine have joined the New Jersey National Guard: Jose Sanchez, Jamilette Cotts-Martinez, Nyree Scott, Paul Brown, Alex Frazier, Angel Burgos, Emma Super, Mason Nicini, and Michael Rinehart. All forty-three will also be recognized on May 15th at "Our Community Salutes of South Jersey."

Later this month, these young men and women will join their classmates in celebration of graduation. At a time when many of their peers are looking forward to pursuing vocational training or college degrees, they instead have chosen to dedicate themselves to military service in defense of our country. They should rest assured that the full support and resources of this chamber, and all of the American people, are with them in whatever challenges may lie ahead.

It is thanks to the dedication of untold numbers of patriots like these forty-three that we are able to meet here today, in the House of Representatives, and openly debate the best solutions to the many and diverse problems that confront our country. It is thanks to their sacrifices that the United States of America remains a beacon of hope and freedom in a fractious world.

Mr. Speaker, their decision to serve our country will not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank these forty-three graduating seniors for the selfishness and courage that they have shown by volunteering to risk their lives in the defense of others. We owe them, along with all of those who serve our country, a deep debt of gratitude.